




SMART Program Goals & Objectives - GLRCAP Implementation

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Great Lakes RCAP







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What is RCAP?

- Nationwide network of technical assistance agencies
- Provide help to rural communities on water, wastewater, & other community development issues



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What is SMART?

- Strategic Management & Available Resources & Technology
- USEPA-funded program
- National Environmental Service Center (NESC) & RCAP partnering



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SMART Goal

- Stimulate voluntary source water protection planning activities
 - Added focus on untreated wastewater from septic systems and sewers
 - Additional focus on social marketing
- Targeted to small & very small systems – community & non-community systems are eligible



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SMART Objectives

- Build understanding of the connection between effective wastewater treatment & source water protection
- Address lack of resources by facilitating partnerships with volunteer groups
- Prepare operators & local officials to develop contingency plans for supplying safe drinking water



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Proposed Outcomes of Grant

- Local officials will have increased understanding of source water assessments
- Local officials will learn how to conduct source water planning and obtain community support
- Local officials will understand how wastewater treatment & source water protection are interrelated



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Proposed Outcomes of Grant

- Local officials will be more aware of information resources available to them
- Local officials will be aware of volunteer organizations that can assist them
- There will be an increase in technical assistance requests to RCAP & NESC



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Specific Deliverables for RCAP

- Deliver 100 Trainings in all 50 states
 - Train at least 245 small systems
 - Training focused on “how-to”
 - Teach them the basics of how to do source water planning on their own



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RCAP Deliverables (cont.)

- Conduct onsite technical assistance for at least 30 systems nationwide
 - Help communities complete the planning process
 - In GLRCAP states, each state will be completing one project



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How long does the program last?

- SMART was an 18 month grant
- Ends May 31, 2009
- To date, NESC has convened an advisory group & provided training to RCAP master trainers from each region
- RCAP regions have trained all of their staff



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The GLRCAP Model – How & Why it Works

- Focused heavily on community & stakeholder participation
 - We provide information & facilitation, but they are responsible for doing the work
 - Very focused on community involvement & importance of public buy-in for the plan
 - Emphasizes the importance of public education to achieve long-term results



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GLRCAP Source Water Experience

- Regional office staff involved in source water protection for 10+ years
- Experience varies by state
 - some have considerable direct experience & some have done many related activities but no direct source water planning



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GLRCAP Source Water Experience

- Conducted wellhead protection planning for numerous small communities in Ohio & Indiana
- Conducted source water planning for a few medium-sized systems, i.e. Parkersburg, WV & Marietta, OH



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GLRCAP Source Water Experience

- Assisted Region 5 with completing tribal assessments in Wisconsin
- Completed multi-jurisdictional plan for large karst area in Ohio – funded by Region 5
- Assisted Ohio EPA in completing contaminant source inventories for SWAPs



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GLRCAP Source Water Experience

- Manage the Sandusky River Watershed Coalition
 - 1800 sq. mile area; HUC 8 watershed
 - One of the first to incorporate source water planning with watershed group
- Have done additional watershed work in Michigan & Wisconsin tribal areas



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